

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (cancelled)

29. (new) A method of creating and modifying a graphical user interface (GUI) using a graphics file and configuration file pair, comprising:

accessing said graphics file, wherein said graphics file comprises the full extent and external boundary of said graphical user interface;

accessing said configuration file which comprises header information, skin points and activation region definitions, wherein said activation region definitions comprise definitions associated with importing dynamically linked library (dll) files into a process running on a computer system and the initiation of a recursive use of respective graphics file and configuration file pairs; and

modifying data in said graphics file and configuration file pair to effect the creation and modification of said GUI.

30. (new) The method of claim 29 wherein an activation region type for said activation region points to a third computer file comprising a plurality of parameters corresponding to a second graphical image, wherein said second graphical image is defined in a fourth computer file.

31. (new) The method of 29 wherein a processing of said graphics file and said configuration file comprises:

defining a polygon corresponding to an external boundary of the graphical image corresponding to said graphics file and configuration file pair, wherein said polygon comprises a non-rectangular irregular shape;

storing information regarding said polygon in a computer system; and

partitioning said graphical image into transparent and visible color regions using the information regarding said polygon.

32. (new) The method of claim 29 wherein said configuration file is read for processing said graphics file.

33. (new) The computer system of claim 29 wherein at least one of the group consisting of said graphics file and said configuration file is dynamically updated by a server computer coupled to the computer system.

34. (new) The method of claim 29 wherein a state of said GUI is selected from the group consisting of default state, selected state and activated state.

35. (new) A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps, comprising:

retrieving a graphics file, wherein said graphics file comprises the full extent and external boundary of said graphical user interface;

retrieving a configuration file which comprises header information, skin points and activation region definitions, wherein said activation region definitions comprise definitions associated with importing dynamically linked library (dll) files into a process running on a computer system and the initiation of a recursive use of respective graphics file and configuration file pairs; and

modifying data in said graphics file and said configuration file to effect the creation and modification of a graphical user interface (GUI) wherein said graphics file and said configuration file constitute a graphics file and configuration file pair that effects the direct creation and modification of a single GUI.

36. (new) The medium of claim 35 wherein an activation region type for said activation region points to a third computer file comprising a plurality of parameters corresponding to a second graphical image, wherein the second graphical image is defined in a fourth computer file.

37. (new) The medium of 35 wherein a processing of said graphics file and said configuration file comprises:

defining a polygon corresponding to an external boundary of the graphical image corresponding to said graphics file and configuration file pair, wherein said polygon comprises a non-rectangular irregular shape;

storing information regarding said polygon in a computer system; and

partitioning said graphical image into transparent and visible color regions using the information regarding said polygon.

38. (new) The medium of claim 35 wherein said configuration file is read for processing said graphics file.

39. (new) The medium of claim 37 wherein at least one of the group consisting of said graphics file and said configuration file is dynamically updated by a server computer coupled to the computer system.

40. (new) The medium of claim 35 wherein a state of said GUI is selected from the group consisting of default state, selected state and activated state.

41. (new) A device comprising:

a memory; and

a processor coupled to said memory, said processor for executing operations of a method for creating and modifying a graphical user interface (GUI) using a graphics file and configuration file pair comprising:

receiving from said memory, data from said graphics file, wherein said graphics file comprises the full extent and external boundary of said graphical user interface;

receiving from said memory data from said configuration file which comprises header information, skin points and activation region definitions, wherein said activation region definitions comprise definitions associated with importing dynamically linked library (dll) files into a process running on a computer system and the initiation of a recursive use of respective graphics file and configuration file pairs; and

transforming data in said graphics file and configuration file to effect the creation and modification of said GUI.

42. (new) The system of claim 41 wherein an activation region type for said activation region points to a third computer file comprising a plurality of parameters corresponding to a second graphical image, wherein the second graphical image is defined in a fourth computer file.

43. (new) The system of 41 wherein a processing of said graphics file and said configuration file comprises:

defining a polygon corresponding to an external boundary of the graphical image corresponding to said graphics file and configuration file pair, wherein said polygon comprises a non-rectangular irregular shape;

storing information regarding said polygon in a computer system; and

partitioning said graphical image into transparent and visible color regions using the information regarding said polygon.

44. (new) The system of claim 41 wherein said configuration file is read for processing said graphics file.

45. (new) The system of claim 43 wherein at least one of the group consisting of said graphics file and said configuration file is dynamically updated by a server computer coupled to said computer system.

46. (new) The system of claim 41 wherein a state of said GUI is selected from the group consisting of default state, selected state and activated state.